

REMARKS

The previously filed amendment is incorporated herein in its entirety.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the provisional notification that claims 1-3 and 5-6 are in a condition for allowance. .

**Rejections under 35 §USC 112, first and second paragraph may properly be withdrawn:** The rejection of claims 14 – 16 under the first and second paragraphs of section 112 are rendered moot in light of the above requested amendment, wherein claims 14-16 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the grounds for this rejection.

No new matter is submitted.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims are in proper condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that all of the rejections be withdrawn and a Notice of Allowance be forwarded to the Applicants.


The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Attorney at the telephone number given below, if such would expedite the allowance of this application.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

CONDITIONAL PETITION

Applicant hereby makes a Conditional Petition for any relief available to correct any defect in connection with this filing, or any defect remaining in this application after this filing. The Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account 13-2755 for the petition fee and any other fee(s) required to affect this Conditional Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Vineet Kohli  
Reg. No. 37,003  
Attorney for Applicant

MERCK & CO., INC.  
P.O. Box 2000  
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907  
(732) 594-3889

Date: 6/8/05